May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government proposed to formulate a tourism development action plan in Haryana with regard to these particular cities which are connected with Mahabharata serial - that is Karnal, Kurukshetar, Pinjore, Sohna, Surajkund, etc., so that the people are attracted to these places? Some proposals are pending and some other I have suggested. I want to know the time by which these proposals are likely to be approved by the Government.

SHRI M. O. H. FAROOK: The Government of India has ordered with the help of the Tourism Department that a study on Kurukshetra can be commissioned. Once the study be over; then we shall be in a position to look into it.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): Of the four pending projects two have already been sanctioned and the remaining are in the process of approval. I would like to point out that in 1990-91, of the total central assistance given, almost ten per cent was given to the State of Haryana which geographically is not such a large State. But still almost ten per cent was given, which is a very large sum of money.

National Station of River Water

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*352. DR. V. RAJESWARAN:
SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to nationalise river waters in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). There is no proposal for nationalising river waters in the country. However, for integrated development of water resources setting up of river basin organisations has been contemplated.

DR. V. RAJESHWARAN: The answer given by the hon. Minister is not satisfactory and convincing. Today the inter-State water dispute is becom a threat and challenge to the country's integration. The Government should not take a lenient view on this issue. Today, the Cauvery dispute is a threat to the country's national integrity; tomorrow, some other dispute will be there.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question?

DR. V. RAJESHWARAN: Therefore, I request them to see things and consider the possibility of bringing out a Bill to nationalise the rivers of the country. Will the Government think it over to bring a Bill?

MR. SPEAKER: They have said positively, 'No'. It is very very clear. There is no ambiguity.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: All rivers national in character and I do not know, how we can nationalise the national asset which is already fully national.

As far as the disputes are concerned, the inter-State disputes are inherent because most of the major river of the country are inter-State in nature and some dispute or the other keeps on arising. Therefore, this Houses had legislated an Inter-State Water Disputes Act; and according to that Act. whenever any dispute arises, first of all, we try to resolve that by negotiation and in case the negotiation fails to give any result whatsoever, then, in accordance with the provisions of the law, we refer it to the Tribunal and subsequent action is taken. Therefore, the question of nationalising anything which is already national in character should not arise.

DR. V. RAJESHWARAN: I came to know that out of 69,000 tmc of river water available in the country, we are using only 7,000 tmc

of water of the rivers and the rest is going waste into the sea. My Constituency, Ramanathapuram in Tamilnadu is badly affected by the drought for the part past ten years. Even drinking water is not available for the people. Therefore, will the Government take necessary action at least to divert the water flowing into the Kerala State? It can to diverted toward Tamilnadu so that our people in Tamilnadu can have some water.

MR. SPEAKER: It does not arise out of this question.

DR. V. RAJESHWARAN: It is part of that question.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, if the Minister wants to reply, I have no objection.

DR. V. RAJESHWARAN: They need not give water without any profit. They can get rice from us. Will the Government of India initiate that move and instruct the State of Kerala to divert water towards Tamilnadu? Will it be possible and will the Government take initiative?

SHRI A. CHARLES: It is like, "Water, water everywhere; but not a drop to drink". We are facing acute shortage of water.

MR. SPEAKER: This does not arise out of this question. If the Minister wants to reply, I have no objection.

Now, Shri Athithan—not present. Now, Shri Joshi.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has replied that the setting up of River Basin Organisations has been contemplated. Will he be pleased to State as to when it was contemplated and when it had been implemented after its contemplation? It is not clear whether a River Basin has been set up or not and by what time it will gain spee, because it is very essential to link the India rivers with each other. It is the secret of the welfare of the country. The hon. Minister may please State clearly as to when it was implemented?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the beginning in All India Council was constituted whose Chairman is the hon. Prime Minister and the Chief Minister of all the State are its Members. A national policy was formulated by that council. This council was constituted in 1983 and the National Water Policy was approved Unanimously by the entire country in 1987. It was mentioned in that Policy that as far possible, the shortage of water may be removed by linking the alluvial land of the rivers with the land where the water is not available. Previously, it was contemplated that the waters of north would be diverted to South but it appeared to be impracticable and so the idea was given up. Now, there is a scheme of lucking the Southern Riversh with Southern alluvion and Northern river to Northern Alluvion, and the preliminary study in this regard is being completed. It would be further considered after the study is completed.

[*English*]

SHRI SHANKARRAO D. KALE: Mr. Speaker Sir, you know that Maharashtra is a famine stricken state. So, Maharashtra is not in a position to fulfil the demands of irrigation from its own rivers. We have been told that the Government of India is thinking to divert Ganga water to Maharashtra. Now, will the hon. Minister tell us the position of that project?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: There is no such project or proposal with the Government of India.

[*Translation*]

Construction of Major Dams

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*354. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state: